

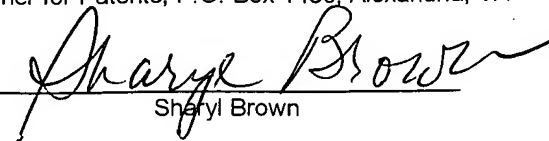


JFW

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Date: June 9, 2005


Sheryl Brown

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Baptista

Atty. Dkt. No.: 37469-8041.US01

Serial No.: 10/789,451

Examiner: Eugene Lee Kim

Group Art Unit: 3721

Filed: February 26, 2004

Confirmation No.: 5173

Title: Vacuum Packaging Appliance With
Removable Trough

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

**Mail Stop Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated May 12, 2005. A response is due by June 10, 2005.

REMARKS

The Examiner required restriction to one of the following:

Group I: Claims 13-17, 23-28 directed to trough coupled to the base through an aperture.

Group II: Claims 1-12, 18-22 directed to trough being coupled through bay.

Group III: Claims 29-33 drawn to trough workpiece, classified in class 206.